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# Population Statistics and Associated Data

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Paper No. 3  
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Halpern, Joel M.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND ASSOCIATED DATA

[These papers are issued for the scholarly community in the hope that they may elicit comments which may be incorporated in a subsequent revised version.]

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Introductory Note

From the demographic point of view Laos is one of the most poorly known countries in the world. The available information summarized in the following pages is incomplete and often contradictory. Poor and scattered as it is, however, the reader searching for a basic orientation to the complex structure of the population of Laos will find this information provides a useful introduction. It is the compiler's hope that better information will become available when the present confused political situation is resolved.

**TABIE 1**

**MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM MONTHLY TEMPERATURES IN IAOS  
(Degrees Centigrade)**

Station	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Luang Prabang <sup>a</sup>													
Max.	39.2	39.1	41.0	44.8	44.0	40.0	39.0	39.8	38.0	38.6	36.3	33.0	44.8
Min.	0.8	8.0	9.8	14.0	17.0	14.0	19.2	14.0	10.8	12.9	6.0	4.3	0.8
Vientiane <sup>b</sup>													
Max.	34.9	36.6	39.8	39.2	38.9	35.6	34.3	36.6	35.2	34.2	34.4	33.4	39.8
Min.	3.9	7.6	12.1	17.1	20.6	21.1	21.2	21.1	21.2	12.9	10.3	5.0	3.9
Thakhek <sup>c</sup>													
Max.	35.6	37.9	39.1	40.1	39.3	36.3	34.6	35.4	36.5	35.6	35.2	36.0	40.1
Min.	3.5	7.7	10.3	13.7	20.2	20.9	21.2	21.2	17.6	11.5	9.9	5.8	3.5
Savannakhet <sup>d</sup>													
Max.	38.5	39.0	42.0	41.5	40.5	36.4	35.1	35.5	35.2	36.2	35.3	36.0	42.0
Min.	5.8	9.0	10.5	15.0	20.0	22.0	19.6	21.0	18.2	12.0	8.5	5.7	5.7
Pakse <sup>e</sup>													
Max.	36.8	37.9	38.0	39.4	38.5	34.8	34.1	34.4	34.5	35.0	34.2	35.0	39.4
Min.	8.2	13.2	12.6	19.8	21.8	21.5	21.4	21.5	19.8	16.7	14.0	9.0	8.2

Source: Le Climat de L'Indochine et les Typhons de la Mer de Chine, by E. Bruzon and P. Carton.

<sup>a</sup>Luang Prabang measurements over period of 27 years.

<sup>b</sup>Vientiane measurements over period of 9 years.

<sup>c</sup>Thakhek measurements over period of 10 years.

<sup>d</sup>Savannakhet measurements over period of 11 years.

<sup>e</sup>Pakse measurements over period of 8 years.



TABLE 2

RAINFALL IN LAOS-1958  
(in millimeters)

Measuring Point	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total Rain-fall	Total Days Rain
<b>THANG PRABANG</b>														
Days of rain	6	-	2	3	7	8	22	15	11	10	1	-		85
Rainfall	29.5	-	5.9	16.9	51.2	50.3	250.1	102.0	125.4	828.0	3.2	-	1463	
<b>XIENG KHOUANG</b>														
Days of rain	1	-	2	-	3	5	-	6	3	9	-	-		89*
Rainfall	9.1	-	9.4	-	.5	.8	-	44.0	720.0	444.0	-	-	1227.8*	
<b>VIENTIANE</b>														
Days of rain	2	4	3	3	10	23	15	23	16	4	1	-	1161	104
Rainfall	35.2	6.6	2.7	18.1	100.8	246.2	165.1	334.3	243.4	7.9	0.9	-	1279	
<b>SAVANNAKHET</b>														
Days of rain	-	2	2	7	5	14	23	13	21	NO DATA-----				87
Rainfall	-	6.9	1.9	180.0	36.7	219.0	262.4	244.6	327.7	NO DATA-----				1279
<b>PAKSE</b>														
Days of rain	-	-	-	-	7	13	18	11	22	6	-	-		77
Rainfall	-	-	-	-	40.8	159.8	300.5	100.0	314.4	33.9	-	-	949	

Source: Bulletin Statistique du Laos, Ministere des Finances de l'Economie Nationale et du Plan, 1958.

NOTE: One millimeter equals 0.03937 inches; for rapid calculation, one inch equals 25 millimeters. \* These figures are based on incomplete data

TABLE 3

WATER LEVELS OF THE MEKONG RIVER FOR 1958  
(in meters)

Measuring Point	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Mean
<b>LUANG PRABANG</b>													
Max.	4.63	4.71	3.79	3.54	3.47	6.27	12.14	11.61	9.89	9.49	8.32	4.95	6.16
Min.	4.14	4.82	3.58	3.12	3.12	3.47	6.45	9.53	9.32	8.37	4.96	4.54	4.54
<b>VIENTIANE</b>													
Max.	1.84	1.65	1.43	1.70	2.90	3.75	8.00	8.90	8.80	5.50	3.70	1.55	4.46
Min.	1.55	1.44	1.27	1.25	1.75	2.68	3.85	7.50	5.10	3.80	1.65	0.85	2.72
<b>THAKHEK</b>													
Max.	0.75	0.54	0.42	0.49	0.45	5.14	9.46	9.46	9.34	6.80	3.90	1.70	4.02
Min.	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.05	3.34	7.60	7.30	4.05	1.70	0.72	2.02
<b>SAVANNAKHET</b>													
Max.	0.61	0.32	0.70	0.70	0.43	3.82	8.00	8.10	8.20	5.55	2.11	0.82	3.69
Min.	0.18	0.06	0.04	0.01	0.10	0.10	2.15	6.07	6.05	2.28	0.90	0.12	1.69
<b>PAKSE</b>													
Max.	2.34	1.75	1.33	1.02	1.13	2.96	8.92	8.96	11.88	9.00	4.05	2.44	4.77
Min.	1.77	1.34	1.03	0.70	0.67	1.15	2.80	6.58	9.05	4.13	2.43	1.16	2.58

Source: Bulletin Statistique du Laos, Ministere des Finances de l'Economie Nationale et du Plan, 1958.

NOTE: One meter equals 39.37 inches, or approximately 1.1 yards.

TABLE 4

## POPULATION DENSITIES OF LAOS AND NEIGHBORING AREAS, COMPARED

AREA	POPULATION	
	per square mile	per square kilometer
Laos 1901 <sup>a</sup>	4.7	1.8
North	2.9	1.1
South	7	2.7
Laos 1943 <sup>b</sup>	13	5
North	7.4	3.6
South	17.4	6.7
Central	16.9	6.5
Laos 1947 <sup>c</sup>	12.8	5.1
Laos 1957 <sup>d</sup>	15	6
Laos 1957 <sup>e</sup>	33	12.6
Laos 1959 <sup>f</sup>	19	7.3
Mekong Valley in Laos along Thai border <sup>g</sup>	180	70
Lamet Tribe in Nam Tha Province in northern Laos <sup>h</sup>	6.8	2.6
Northeast Thailand <sup>i</sup>	94	38
Village near Bangkok <sup>j</sup>	320	124

<sup>a</sup> Reinach 1901:92

<sup>b</sup> Pietrantoni 1957:225 (Vientiane, Khammouane and Savannakhet Provinces constitute Central Laos)

<sup>c</sup> Based on a population of 1,169,000

<sup>d</sup> Statistical Yearbook of the United Nations 1957:25 (population given as 1,450,000)

<sup>e</sup> Based on Pamphlet "About Laos" issued by Lao Embassy in Washington 1957 (population given as 3,000,000)

<sup>f</sup> Lefont 1959:11

<sup>g</sup> Human Relations Area Files, Laos Monograph 1955:112

<sup>h</sup> Izikowitz 1951:38

<sup>i</sup> Madge 1957:12

<sup>j</sup> Sharp 1953:24

TABLE 5

## POPULATION DENSITIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND OTHER WORLD AREAS, COMPARED

AREA	POPULATION	
	per square mile	per square kilometer
Asian Tropics	197	79
African Tropics	25	10
American Tropics	22	8.8
India	326	130
Burma	77	30.8
Thailand	99	39.6
Indochina	122	48.8

Source: United Nations Demographic Yearbook for 1954, New York.

TABLE 6

## POPULATION DENSITY OF LAOS, 1942, 1947, 1958

Province	Area in 000 Square Kilometers	Inhabi- tants per Km <sup>2</sup> , 1943 <sup>a</sup>	Popula- tion in 000 1947	Inhabi- tants per Km <sup>2</sup> , 1947	Popula- tion in 000 1958	Inhabi- tants per Km <sup>2</sup> , 1958 <sup>b</sup>
Champassac <sup>c</sup>	26.4	5.4 area 29,800	170	6.4	230	8.7
Khammouane	26.4	4.9	104	3.9	140	5.3
Nam Tha	12.9	2.6	46	<del>3.6</del> 3.6	65	5.0
Sam Neua	16.3	4.0	78	<del>4.8</del> 4.8	95	5.8
Luang Prabang	37.2	3.7 area 55,600	142	<del>3.8</del> 3.8	210	5.6
Phong Saly	15.8	2.4	30	<del>1.9</del> 1.9	85	5.4
Saravane	21.6	9.9 area 13,000	120	5.5	160	7.4
Savannakhet	21.7	8.5	194	8.9	270	12.4
Sayaboury	18.4	-	79	4.3	140	7.6
Xieng Khouang	19.5	4.4	84	4.3	130	6.7
Vientiane	20.6	6.1	122	5.9	215	10.4
TOTALS	236.8	( 5.2 ) conditional average	1,169	average 4.9	<del>1,740</del> 1,740	average <del>7.3</del> 7.3

Source: Annuaire Statistique de l'Indochine 1947-1948 p.19.

<sup>a</sup>Pietrantonio 1957 p.226-228.

<sup>b</sup>Average estimates of the Lao Statistical Bureau.

<sup>c</sup>Includes present Province of Attapeu in 1943 and 1947 omitted in 1958.

Note: Nam Tha is also known as Haut - Mekong or Houa Khong and Sam Neua is often referred to as Houa Phans, while Khammouane is sometimes spelled Cammon.

TABLE 7

## POPULATION OF LAOS BY PROVINCES

1911 - 1959

Province	1911	1921	1931	1936	1943	1946	1947	1951	1955 <sup>a</sup>	1955 <sup>b</sup>	1957	1958 <sup>b</sup>	1959
Phong Saly	-	26,000	34,000	35,000	37,000	30,000	30,000	46,200	50,000	50,000	94,255	70-100,000	
Sam Neua (Houa Phan)	4,431	44,000	38,000	57,000	66,000	83,000	78,000	63,300	65,000	65,000	90,500	80-110,000	
Nam Tha (Haut Mekong)	15,585	29,000	31,000	31,000	34,000	34,000	46,000	50,300	46,809	55,720	51,647	65-100,000	50,300
Xiang Khouang	-	51,000	60,000	61,000	85,000	88,000	84,000	82,300	93,609	86,728 <sup>c</sup>	105,212	130-170,000	
Luang Prabang	181,705 <sup>d</sup>	225,000 <sup>d</sup>	195,000 <sup>d</sup>	197,000 <sup>d</sup>	202,000 <sup>d</sup>	130,000	142,000	173,400	136,821	131,165	205,749	210-280,000	246,386 <sup>e</sup>
Sayaboury	One section in Luang Prabang Province and another in Thailand					75,000	79,000	71,400	98,516	98,786	108,848	140-180,000	125,627 <sup>e</sup>
Vientiane	27,216	68,000	93,000	116,000	126,000	114,000	122,000	153,600	186,269	187,815	176,168	180-250,000	197,956
Khammouane	60,343	70,000	86,000	105,000	132,000	124,000	104,000	108,500	108,603	111,971	131,302	120-160,000	155,519
Savannakhet	73,511	80,000	145,000	164,000	186,000	193,000	194,000	203,700	214,974	221,504 <sup>f</sup>	251,168	270-350,000	
Seravane	13,413	69,000	87,000	94,000	127,000	151,000	120,000	163,700	125,957	153,448	147,259	160-200,000	128,058
Champassac (Pakse)	67,683	105,000	120,000	(158,000)	(157,000)	(167,000)	(170,000)	(193,000)	122,078	114,950	163,344	170-220,000	185,586 <sup>g</sup>
Attapeu	36,943	52,000							43,315	43,315 <sup>h</sup>	49,998	60-90,000	
TOTAL	480,830	819,000	889,000	1,018,000	1,152,000	1,189,000	1,169,000	1,309,400	1,291,951	1,320,402	1,575,450	1,655,000-2,210,000	

Sources: Annuaire Statistique de l'Indochine, 1930-1931, p. 53; 1936-1937, p.21;

1943-1946, p. 27; 1947-1948, p.19.

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Note: It is impossible to resolve the discrepancies between Tables 7 and 9 on the basis of currently available information.

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TABLE 8

POPULATION OF LAOS BY PROVINCES AND DISTRICTS<sup>a</sup>

<u>SARAVANE</u>		1960	1956	
Muong Saravane		29,644	29,677	
Muong Kongsedon		35,199	35,276	
Muong Lao Ngam		21,304	21,128	
Muong Kaleum		9,417	7,927	
Muong Chavane		7,561	7,826	
Muong Ta Oy		10,815	11,965	
Kong Tha Teng		5,165	5,206	
Kong Laman		8,953	7,660	
Total		128,058	126,665	
			147,259 (1957)	
<u>CHAMPASSAC</u>		1960	1955	
Muong Champassac		35,490	19,195	
Muong Paksong		7,415	2,047	
Muong Phiafay		17,216	9,748	
Muong Moulapamok		12,229	4,370	
Muong Pakse		49,601	35,032	
Muong Khong		31,968	24,086	
Muong Phon Thong		31,667	20,492	
Total		185,586	124,958	
			114,970 (1957)	
<u>LUANG PRABANG</u>		1959	1957	1955
Luang Prabang Prefecture		7,596	7,596	
Muong Luang Prabang, except Prefecture		18,331	20,235	15,505
Muong Luang Prabang, Kong Pak Ou		13,797	11,891	8,488
Muong Hounh		17,867	16,823	(10,540)?
Muong Hounh, Kong Pak Beng		5,661	6,894	5,143
Muong Pak Tha		16,965	10,049	9,596
Muong Xay		26,027	28,753	20,581 <sup>b</sup>
Muong Xay, Kong Na Mo		6,597	6,316	<sup>b</sup>
Kong Na Mo, Dane Muong Beng		13,637	<sup>b</sup>	<sup>b</sup>
Muong Ngoy		33,639	26,474	<sup>b</sup>
Muong Pak Seng		43,909	27,488	18,679
Muong Kassy		15,722	12,192	11,762
Muong Xieng Ngeun		18,159	14,904	10,716
Muong Xieng Ngeun, Kong Muong Nan		8,479	7,938	<sup>b</sup>
Total		246,386	205,749 <sup>b</sup>	135,360 <sup>b</sup>
<u>ATTOPEU</u>		1960	1955	
Muong Sekong		14,762	13,522	
Muong Cao		13,735	11,519	
Muong Love		8,041	8,038	
Kong Kaseng		6,092	<sup>b</sup>	
Kong Salang		1,973	1,379	
Kong Senam Noi		3,858	3,858	
Total		48,461	38,316 <sup>b</sup>	
			49,998 (1957)	
<u>KHAMMOUANE</u>		1960	1955	
Muong Thakhek		53,587	44,045	
Muong Hin Boun		21,133	19,428	
Muong Kham Keuth		31,206	13,538	
Muong Mahaxay		44,974	31,722	
Dane Phone Tran		4,619	3,238	
Total		155,519	111,971	
			131,302 (1957)	
<u>SAVANNAKHET</u>		1960	1955	
Muong Khanaboury		64,886	66,260	
Muong Phine		15,049	13,486	
Muong Song Khone		48,964	36,630	
Muong Atsaphanthong		37,559	32,839	
Muong Tecepone		43,218	24,646 <sup>b</sup>	
Muong Champhone		43,703	39,431	
Total		253,379	213,292	
			251,168 (1957)	



<u>XIENG KHOUANG</u>		1960	1955
Muong Khoune		20,628	20,000
Muong Meo		43,641	43,000
Muong Pek		14,193	13,424
Muong Kham		22,939	20,494
Muong Mok		6,293	6,218
Total		107,694	103,136
			105,212 (1957)
<u>VIENTIANE</u>		1959	
Muong Vientiane		118,906	
Muong Borikanh		20,330	
Muong Thourakhom		19,931	
Muong Phone Hong		13,420	
Muong Vang Vieng		17,914	
Muong Sanakham		7,555	
Total		198,056 <sup>c</sup>	176,168 (1957)
<u>SAYABOURY</u>		1960	
Muong Sayaboury		31,843	
Muong Hong Sa		37,565	
Muong Kene Thao		27,691	
Muong Pak Lay		28,528	
Total		125,627 <sup>d</sup>	108,848 (1957)

Source: Royal Lao Government census.

<sup>a</sup>No reports for Phong Saly, Sam Neua or Nam Tha.

<sup>b</sup>Incomplete.

<sup>c</sup>Disagrees with estimates given in other tables due to lack of standardization.

<sup>d</sup>Other government estimates give 44,781 for Muong Hong Sa and 135,552 for the province as a whole.

Note: Although some of their basic figures are based on counts undertaken in 1950, with the exception of Attapeu and Saravane all of the figures represent a net increase. It is possible that some accounting error is involved in these estimates. The general underestimation of tribal populations apparently still continues in these figures. The tremendous concentration in Vientiane District (Muong Vientiane) is particularly outstanding and is most probably a recent development. An example of highly questionable statistics is given in the figures cited in Table 8A, below:

TABLE 8A

TEST COMPARISON OF SIZES OF LAO VILLAGES IN TASSIENG MUONG HOUN, MUONG MUONG HOUN, LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, 1958 AND 1955

<u>Village</u>	<u>Population</u>		<u>Houses</u>	
	<u>1958</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1955</u>
Houn Luang	407	639	69	100
Na Khong	407	349	78	70
Na Fang	167	162	35	30
Na Khan	230	406	44	70
Nam Ngath	117	122	23	18
Ta Na Oum	257	248	46	37
Ta Nam Beng	487	343	82	79



TABLE 9

POPULATION OF LAOS - 1900-1959<sup>a</sup>

YEAR	POPULATION	YEAR	POPULATION	YEAR	POPULATION
1900	400,000	1920	813,900	1931	942,600
1910	548,000	1921	818,800	1932	974,900
1912	649,600	1922	825,000	1933	989,100
1913	702,200	1923	832,000	1934	991,600
1914	701,200	1924	837,900	1935	990,700
1915	703,500	1925	840,000	1936	1,008,800
1916	749,400	1926	864,600	1937	1,031,100
1917	796,100	1927	879,700	1938	1,028,300
1918	799,200	1928	886,700	1939	1,074,400
1919	812,200	1929	893,100	1940	1,078,000
		1930	896,700		
1941	984,900	plus area ceded to Thailand		114,000	total 1,098,900
1942	1,012,800	"	"	118,000	1,130,800
1943	1,038,500	"	"	120,500	1,159,000
1946 <sup>b</sup>	1,189,000				
1947	1,169,000				
1951	1,309,400				
1955 <sup>c</sup>	1,291,951				
1955 <sup>d</sup>	1,320,402				
1957	1,575,450				
1958	1,655,000	- 2,210,000 <sup>e</sup>			
1960	1,900,000 <sup>f</sup>				

Source: Pietrantonio 1953 p.26, and the Lao Government

<sup>a</sup>The area of Laos was estimated at 225,000 square kilometers in 1912 and 231,000 in 1959.

<sup>b</sup>See Table 11E Population of Laos by Provinces 1911-1959 and footnotes in that chart for sources.

<sup>c</sup>Source: Lao Ministry of the Interior.

<sup>d</sup>Source: Lao Bureau of Statistics.

<sup>e</sup>These figures represent the maximum and minimum estimates according to the Lao Bureau of Statistics.

<sup>f</sup>According to B. Fall based on Lao government sources including electoral census and allowing for a 1.5% annual increase.

TABLE 10

## PERCENTAGE INCREASES OF THE POPULATION OF LAOS FOR SELECTED YEARS

YEAR	POPULATION	INCREASE	PERCENT INCREASE
1917	796,100	-	-
1927	879,700	83,600	10.5 9.5
1937	1,031,100	151,400	14.7
1947	1,169,000	137,900	11.8
1957	1,575,450	406,450	25.8

Sources: See Table 9.

TABLE 11

RATES OF ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH BY WORLD REGIONS (1920-1956) AND LAOS, COMPARED

Region	1920-30	1930-40	1940-50	1950---1956
World	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.6
ECAFE	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5
Southwest Asia	0.9	1.1	1.6	2.3
Latin America	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.5
Europe	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.8
North America	1.4	0.8	1.4	1.7
LAOS	1.02	2.02	2.15 (1940-51)	2.03 (1951-57)

Source: Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East, Vol. X No.1 1959, p.11.

TABLE 11A

RATES OF POPULATION GROWTH 1954-56

(Based on Estimates of Total Population)

Burma	1.6	Thailand	1.9
Cambodia	3.6	Viet-nam	1.1
China (Mainland)	2.2	France	0.8
India	1.3	United States	1.7
LAOS 3.2			

Source: ECAFE Bulletin, Vol. X, No. 1, p. 11.

TABLE 12

RATES OF POPULATION GROWTH, 1954-56  
(Per cent)

Country	Based on estimates of total population	Excess of birth rate over death rate
ECAFE region		
Burma	1.6	1.5
Cambodia	3.6	2.4
China: Mainland	2.2	2.0
Taiwan	3.5	3.5
India	1.3	1.2-1.3
Indonesia	1.8	1.9
Japan	1.1	1.1
Laos	3.2	1.8
Philippines	1.9	2.8
Thailand	1.9	2.4
Viet-Nam	1.1	2.1
Economically developed countries		
France	0.8	0.6
United States	1.7	1.6

Source: ECAFE Bulletin, Vol. X, No. 1, p.11.

TABLE 13

GROWTH IN AVERAGE POPULATION PER VILLAGE 1911 - 1959

YEAR	# VILLAGES	RURAL POPULATION	AVERAGE PER VILLAGE
1911	6,315	639,000	101
1918	6,631	739,000	<del>110</del> ///
1921	7,948	800,000	<del>100</del> 10/
1943	8,888	987,000	<del>110</del> ///
1959*	10,053	1,526,500	152

Sources: Pietrontoni 1957:240 and Lao Government statistics.

\*Conservative population estimate.

TABLE 14

VILLAGE SIZE AND POPULATION CONCENTRATION - THREE PROVINCES COMPARED

VIENTIANE					ATTOPU				XIENG KHOUANG			
Village Popula- tion	No. of Vil- lages	%	Popula- tion in thousands	%	No. of Vil- lages	%	Popula- tion in 000	%	No. of Vil- lages	%	Popula- tion in 000	%
-100	341	44.1	21.2	16.4	187	56.9	12.6	26.0	799	67.9	49.4	46.8
100-199	222	28.7	32.9	25.5	83	<del>56.9</del> 25.2	11.3	23.3	332	28.2	43.8	41.5
200-299	108	13.9	26.6	20.7	25	<del>25.2</del> 7.6	6.0	12.1	37	3.1	8.7	8.2
300-399	52	6.7	17.9	13.9	12	<del>7.6</del> 3.6	4.1	8.5	8		2.7	2.5
400-499	22	2.8	9.7	7.5	8	<del>3.6</del> 2.4	3.6	7.4	1		0.4	0.4
500-599	10	1.3	5.4	4.2	5		2.8	5.8		0.8		
600-699	4		2.6		1		0.7	1.4	1		0.7	0.6
700-799	7		5.2		2		1.4	2.9				
800-899	4	2.5	3.3	11.8	2	4.3	1.6	3.3				
900 plus	4		4.2		4		4.6	9.3				
TOTAL	774	100.0	129.0	<del>100.0</del> 100.0	329	100.0	48.7	100.0	1178	100.0	105.7	100.0
Average Village Size	166				148				90			

Source: Lao Bureau of Statistics, 1959.

Note: Vientiane is estimated to be 99% Lao; Attopu 70% Kha; Xieng Khouang 4% Lao and Yao.

TABLE 15

POPULATION OF LAOS<sup>a</sup>

Province (Khoueng)	Number of Districts (Muong)	Number of Cantons (Tasseng)	Number of Villages (Bon)	Number of Inhabitants	Average Population Per Village <sup>b</sup>
Savannakhet	8	104	1,100	221,504	201 <sup>c</sup>
Vientiane	5	71	785	187,815	<del>206</del> 239 <sup>c</sup>
Saravane	8	63	994	153,448	154
Luang Prabang	12	46	1,958	131,165	67
Champassac	7	45	541	114,950	212 <sup>c</sup>
Khammouane	4	53	887	111,971	126 <sup>c</sup>
Sayaboury	3	26	523	98,786	189 <sup>c</sup>
Xieng Khouang	8	58	940	86,828	92
Sam Neua	6	40	873	65,000	74
Nam Tha	5	26	583	55,720	96
Phong Saly	6	31	616	50,000	81
Attapeu	<u>6</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>43,315</u>	<del>145</del> 146
	78	595	10,097	1,320,402	131

<sup>a</sup>All data is from Lao government sources from 1953-55, except for Phong Saly and Sam Neua Provinces, where estimates based on earlier figures are used, since these areas were under Pathet-Lao control during this period.

<sup>b</sup>Includes major towns (e.g. Vientiane) as well as villages.

<sup>c</sup>Provinces in which 80% or more of the population is Lao or Tai.

TABIE 16

ETHNO-LINGUISTIC GROUPS OF LAOS<sup>a</sup>

1. Proto-Indochinese

(Dwell on mountain slopes between the Tai and Meo)

Kha Mou (Khamu)<sup>b</sup>

" Seng

" Bit

" Lamet

" Fhoutheng<sup>b</sup>

" Bb

" Sô

" Souei<sup>c</sup>

" Alak

" Kattang

" Tahoi

" Teu

" Kouy<sup>c</sup>

Love

Halang

2. Khmer

(Valley dwellers in southern Laos)

3. Thai

Lao (dwell in valleys along streams)

Tai (in mountain valleys)

White Tai (Tai Kao)

Black Tai (Tai Dam)

Red Tai (Tai Deng)

Tai Neua

Phoutai

Tai Lu

Nyang

Youanne

Phouen

Phong

4. Meo (Miao) - Yao (Man), Lanten<sup>d</sup>

(These peoples dwell on the mountain tops - rarely below 3,000 feet. Like the Tai they are divided into sub-groups bearing the names of the colors of their distinctive costumes.)

5. Sino-Tibetan

Lolo (Kha Ko also known as Akha)

Xapho

Phunoi (Kha Fai)

Mossu (subdivided into Black and Red groups also known as Lahu)

<sup>a</sup>A partial listing based on P. B. Lafont - Aperçus sur le Laos.  
Vientiane, 1959, p. 13.

<sup>b</sup>Considered by Smalley: (1957, 1) - to be identical. He also feels that Kha Mou is a false etymology and that the proper expression - often used by the Lao - is Kha Khamu.

<sup>c</sup>Smalley suggests that the Kha Souei and Kouy may be different names for the same group.

<sup>d</sup>The exact linguistic associations of these groups is not known but they have been strongly influenced by Chinese culture. The sub-groups of the Meo appear to have mutually intelligible dialects. The Striped and Black Meo seem to be similar linguistically while the White Meo have important phonological and lexical differences but these evidently do not hinder mutual intelligibility.

TABLE 17

## ETHNIC GROUPS\* OF LAOS

<u>Major Group</u>	<u>Sub-groups</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Lao	Youns (Laotians on the right bank of the Mekong River)	
Tribal Tai	Black Tai (Fr: Tai Noir; Lao: Tai Dam) White Tai (Fr: Tai Blanc, Lao: Tai Khao) Red Tai (Fr: Tai Rouge, Lao: Tai Deng) Tai Deng Lu Tai Neua Tai Phong Youanne	Phoutai (various spellings) general name in north-eastern Laos refers to various tribal Tai groups. Groups can usually be distinguished by their costumes.
Miao (Meo)	White Miao (Peu Meo) Black Miao (Heu Meo) Red Miao (Hong Meo) Flowery Miao (Hoa Meo)	Groups can usually be distinguished by their costumes.
Man (Yao)	Ao-Tchaine Khao Lantenés	Man means "barbarians" in Chinese and "savage" in Vietnamese
Lolo	Kho, Houni, Ho Ka (Sa), Sing	
Kha (Moi)	Northern: Seng, Bit, Mou, Lamet  Southern: Bo, Sô, Leu Souei, Kattang, Nghé, Kasseng, Haleng, Alak, Bolaven, Lové, Tahoi	The general term for "Indonesian" (Proto-Indochinese) tribal peoples.  Resented because it means "savage." Futeng ("men of the uplands") also used. Many other groups such as those in process of assimilation to Thai culture e.g. Phai and Mu-quay.

\*This list contains only the major groups, identified by their most commonly used names.

Based on: Embree, Ethnic Groups of Northern Southeast Asia and Carte Ethnolinguistique (Service Géographique de l'Indochine) and Reinach, Le Laos.



TABLE 18

## THAI PEOPLES OF NORTHERN LAOS

Group	Location
- Lao	Along the Mekong and north from Luang Prabang to Phong Saly along the Nam Ou. Northeast along the Nam Tha (River). From Vientiane along the Nam Ngoun, the Nam Song and Nam Lik.
- Tai Dam (Black Tai)	Center in Son La, Nam Tha and near Vang Vieng.
- Tai Deng (Red Tai)	
	Phou Tai
- Tai Kao (White Tai)	East of Sam Neua and northeast of Phong Saly.
- Tai Phong	Southwest of Sam Neua.
- Tai Fouan	Muong Fouan on the Xieng Khouang Plateau.
Lu	Scattered in the north.

Source: K. Iwata, "Ethnic Groups in the Valleys of the Nam Song and Nam Lik."

Note: Other Tai groups include:

Spelling varies, e.g.  
Phou Tai sometimes  
appears as Phu Tai or  
Puthai.

Tai Neua  
" Souei  
" Muei  
" Foua  
" Dai  
" Houan  
" Porong  
" Soun  
" Sot Ban

See Table 21 for a listing  
of some differences between  
the Tribal Tai (particularly  
White and Black) and the  
Thai - Lao to whom most of  
the other groups are  
related.

TABLE 18A

## APPROXIMATE AGES OF VILLAGES IN THE VANG VIENG AREA AND THEIR LOCAL ORIGIN

No.	Group	Village (Ban)	Age	Village From Which Originated
1	Thai Fouan	Souang	100	-
2		Wat Keo	100	-
3		Thin One	100	-
4		Na Tane	100	-
5		Koksane	15	4
6		Na Hoi	15	4
7		Nam Pat	15	4
8		Nam Po	100 )	common origin
9		Pak Po	100 )	
10	Thai Neua and Thai Fouan	Pha Tang	150	-
11		Pha Home	60	10
12		Suan Oi	6	10
13		Kho	50	10
14		Oumong	10	13
15	Thai Neua	Na Boua	100	-
16		Na Dao	50	15
17		Na Phong	90	-
18		Phou Kok	50	17
19	Thai Soun	Soun Phai	70	-
20		Na Gne	10	19
21	Thai Dai	Long Mao	100	-
22		Phoua Ha	50	21

Source: K. Iwata, "Ethnic Groups in the Valley of the Nam Song and the Nam Lik." 14

TABLE 19

## REINACH'S CLASSIFICATION OF KHA GROUPS IN LAOS

I. Kha of Northern Laos (Upper Laos)A. Pure Kha

Khouene Khao	Koussong	Bo	Kouang
Khouene Dam	Bit	Sapouan	Sak
Lemet	Pheng Mi	Kaseng	Mouceu
Leup	Sâ	Tiol	Khmou
Lawa	Sieng Di	Alou	
Kho	Gioi	Ouka	
Khoui	Hock Roi	Pana	
Kouang			
Sak			
Mouceu			
Khmou			

B. Mixtures of Kha, Laotian Thai, Lu, and Youn

Ok	Soue	Phou Thong
Young	Sek	Phou Thuong
Phou Phay	Phong	Phou Ok
So	Lao Nie	

C. Mixtures of Kha and Ho, Miao and Yao (Man)

Kha No	Lolo
Ouni	Sida
Ho Kia	

II. Kha of Southern Laos (Lower Laos)A. Pure Kha

Mjarai	Mane	Cedang	Khon Tou
Mia Heun	Halang Boang	Rade	Banams
Alak	Saleng	Haban	Bo
Tiom Poueun	Peunong	Goclar	Bahnar
Loyè	Katong	Tha Hoi	Rognao
Bras	Katang	Vehs	Sek
Souk	Nié	So	
Seng	Phou Khao	Hin	

B. Mixture of Kha and Laotians

Boloven	Lao Niô	Phou Ok
Ong	Love Lao	Phou Phay
Pou Thong	Souk Khok	Phou Thuong
Pou Bathieng	Souk Niâ	
Touli		

Note: Original spellings have been retained. In many cases they contrast with modern ones e.g. Lemet for Lamet, Khao for Kao, and Khmou for Khmu.

Source: Reinach, Le Laos.

TABLE 20

## ETHNIC GROUPS AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION BY ELEVATION (DISTRICT OF VANG VIENG)

Elevation (in meters above sea level)	Group			
	Lao	Meo	Yao	Phouteng (Kha)
200-300	21	-	-	-
300-400	39	-	-	1
400-500	2	-	-	4
500-600	-	-	-	3
600-700	-	3	-	6
700-800	-	-	1	-
800-900	-	2	-	6
900-1,000	3*	2	2	5
1,000-1,100	-	2	-	2
1,100-1,200	-	5	-	3
1,200-1,300	1	4	-	3
1,300-1,400	-	7	-	1
1,400-1,500	-	5	1	1
1,500-1,600	-	5	-	1
1,600-1,700	-	-	-	-
1,700-1,800	-	1	-	-
Total	66	36	4	36

Source: K. Iwata, "Ethnic Groups in the Valleys of the Nam Song and Nam Lik."

\*A number of Lao villages have moved up onto the mountain to be next to the road for trading purposes.

TABLE 21

## CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF SIX ETHNIC GROUPS OF NORTHERN LAOS

P = Present  
S = Secondary  
L = Limited  
A = Absent

	Lao	Black Tai	Meo	Yao	Khmu	Lamet
Irrigated rice cultivation	P	P	L	A	L	A
Slash-and-burn agriculture	S	S	P	P	P	P
Opium cultivation	A	A	P	P	S	A
Knowledge of writing	P	P	S <sup>a</sup>	S <sup>a</sup>	A	A
Village political organization	S	P	P	P	S	S
Extra-village political organization	P	P	L	L	A	A
Organized extra-village political hierarchy	P	L	L <sup>b</sup>	A	A	A
Patrilineal family structure	A	P	P	P	A	A
Buddhism	P	A	A	A	L	A
Class groups within village	L	P	S	S	L	L
Class groupings beyond village	P	P	A	A	A	A
Formally-educated officials, civil servants and technicians	P	S	L	L	A	A
Represented in politically organized units in Chinese People's Republic or Democratic Republic of Vietnam	P	P	P	P	A	A

<sup>a</sup>Use Chinese script

<sup>b</sup>Have a representative in the Lao Parliament

TABLE 21A

CERTAIN IDENTIFYING CHARACTERISTICS OF SELECTED  
ETHNIC GROUPS IN NORTHERN LAOS

Group	Women's Dress*	House Type	Other Comments
Lao	Silk sarong-type skirts with gold or silver woven trim; often of multi-colored cotton in villages	Usually of woven bamboo, with open verandah and thatch roof; on stilts	Center of village is pagoda (wat), usually largest and best constructed building; abbot of wat has highest prestige; kinship loosely structured; village headman first among equals only
Lai	Indigo-dyed skirts with multi-colored striped insets; unmarried girls wear pink turbans	Often of plank construction and larger than those of the Lao	Household groups usually larger than those of Lao; Lai concentrated in valley of Nam Ou and in Muong Sing, where remnants of a princely state exist
Black Tai (Tai Dam)	Name derived from fitted black blouses and long silk skirts of women; married women wear chignon high on center of forehead	Usually of woven bamboo, on the ground in Vietnamese fashion; in Nam Tha on stilts with plank construction	Related to White (Kao) and Red (Deng) Tai, originally ruled by hereditary princes; main center is Dien-bien Phu, now part of the D.R.V.; highly structured religious system with patrilineal cult of ancestors
Khmu	Simple striped cotton skirts woven by the Lao; often wear turbans	Bamboo houses in small villages in upland areas; poorer than those of the Lao	Trade forest products and game to Lao; practice tattooing and betel-chewing to a greater extent today than do the Lao; animal sacrifice important; aboriginal inhabitants, animists
Meo	Both sexes wear loose black trousers and silver neck-rings; Meo Kao women wear embroidered aprons; Meo Dam are identified by short, full batik-printed linen skirts and black leg wrappings; the Meo Lai (striped Meo) have strips of colored cloth appliqued on sleeves	Large plank houses built on ground; interior subdivided into family units; animal coralls nearby	Headman has important position; extended families patriarchal and patrilineal; recent immigrants from Yunnan; noted for opium cultivation, livestock; mountain-top villages moved every few decades

\*In most cases there are fewer differences in men's dress.

TABLE 22

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF LAOS, 1954-1955, BY PERCENTAGE OF  
ETHNIC GROUPS IN EACH PROVINCE<sup>a</sup>

Province	Total Population	: :	Lao & Tai <sup>b</sup> : No. %	: :	Kha : No. %	: :	Meo & Yao : No. %	: :	Total %
Nam Tha	46,809		17,104 36.54		26,798 57.25		2,907 6.21		100
Luang Prabang	136,821		66,687 48.74		63,416 46.35		6,718 4.91		100
Sayaboury	98,516		86,389 87.69		8,167 8.29		3,960 4.02		100
Xieng Khouang	93,609		44,090 47.10		12,178 13.01		37,341 39.89		100
Vientiane	186,269		183,978 98.77		317 0.17		<u>1,974</u> 52,900 <sup>d</sup> 1.06		100
Khammouane	108,603		99,785 91.88		8,818 8.12		-		100
Savannakhet	214,974		171,743 79.89		42,231 19.64		-		99.5
Saravane	125,957		65,498 52.0		60,459 48.0		-		100
Champassac	122,078		117,769 96.47		4,309 3.53		-		100
Attapeu	43,315		12,865 29.70		30,450 70.30		-		100
			<u>865,908<sup>d</sup></u>		<u>258,143<sup>d</sup></u>				
Phong Saly <sup>c</sup>	50,000				see Table 31 for 1930 figures				
Sam Neua <sup>c</sup>	<u>65,000</u>				see Table 27 for 1936 figures				
Total	1,291,951								

Source: Unpublished records of Ministry of the Interior of the Government of Laos, Vientiane.

<sup>a</sup>Exclusive of Chinese, Vietnamese and Europeans.

<sup>b</sup>Includes Lu, Tai Dam and other tribal Tai groups; does not include Thai.

<sup>c</sup>Data incomplete since most of the area was under Pathet-Lao control during this period.

<sup>d</sup>Total, excluding Phong Saly and Sam Neua Provinces.

Note: Compared to Tables 26 and 30 for approximately the same period and Tables 27-32 for earlier years, the Lao-Tai figure appears exaggerated and the Kha figure underestimated, for example, in Luang Prabang the Lao-Tai figure is greater in this table by 8%, and in Sayaboury by 12%.



TABLE 23

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF LAOS  
1911-1955

Group	1911	%	1921	%	1931	%	1936	%	Kingdom of Luang Prabang <sup>d</sup> 1942	%	All of Laos 1942	%	1955 <sup>e</sup>	%
Lao	276,801	45	429,000	52	485,000	50	565,000	56	168,050	34.8	441,450	43.6	856,000-865,000 (Lao-Tai)	77-74
Tai	124,238	19	122,000	15	113,000	12	100,000	10	108,490	22.4	175,170	17.3		
Kha	195,996	32	221,000	27	268,000	28	247,000	24	141,400	29.2	300,138	29.6	210,000-258,000 <sup>f</sup>	19-22
Mao-Yao	15,205	2	25,000	3	39,000	4	47,000	5	47,240	9.8	49,240	4.9	52,300-52,900	4-4
Vietnamese	4,109	.7	9,000		19,000	2	27,000	2.7	15,400	3.2	39,470	3.9	8,000 <sup>g</sup>	
Chinese	486				3,000	.3			2,440	.5	6,100	.6	32,350 <sup>g</sup>	
European	226 <sup>a</sup> 163 <sup>b</sup>		353 <sup>g</sup>		1,000	.1			560	.1	900	.1	8,000 <sup>h</sup>	
Cambodian	1,270		1,300				2,000							
Indian and Pakistani	6				200								500 <sup>g</sup>	
Total	<del>621,000</del> 618,500	98.7	<del>819,000</del> 807,653	97	964,000	96.4	<del>1,010,000</del> 989,000	97.7	483,580	100.0	1,012,468	100.0	1,291,951-1,320,402	100

<sup>a</sup> French<sup>b</sup> Motls<sup>c</sup> Other Europeans<sup>d</sup> Principally Luang Prabang Province and part of Sayaboury<sup>e</sup> Excludes Phong Saly and Sam Neua; present calculations based on projection of available estimates<sup>f</sup> Kha underestimated despite excluded provinces which contain few Lao 1959 estimates; 41,121 non-Lao Asians were registered in Laos in 1959<sup>g</sup> Includes French military base at Seno and American community (500) in Vientiane (1959)Sources: Lao Ministry of the Interior, Annuaire Statistique du Laos  
and sources listed in Table 7.Note: The totals given in this Table  
are lower than those in Table 7  
and suggest underestimations for non  
Lao groups.



TABLE 24

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF LAOS IN 1921 AND 1955, COMPARED  
BY PERCENTAGE OF ETHNIC GROUPS IN EACH PROVINCE

Province	Lao <sup>a</sup> + Tai				Kha	Mao-Yao	Chinese	Total %
Nam Tha	'21	23	+	6 = 37	47	6	6	88?
	'55			37	57	6		100
Luang Prabang	'21	50	+	2 = 52	42	4		98
	'55			49	46	5		100
Sayaboury	'21 <sup>b</sup>							
	'55			88	8	4		100
Xieng Khouang	'21	57	+	18 <sup>c</sup> = 75		20		95
	'55			47	13	40		100
Vientiane	'21	70	+	22 = 92	1	2		95
	'55			99	.2	1		100
Khammouane	'21	80	+	20 <sup>c</sup> = 100				100
	'55			92	8			100
Savannakhet	'21	48	+	31 = 79	19			98
	'55			80	20			100
Saravane	'21	38	+	27 <sup>c</sup> = 65	33			98
	'55			52	48			100
Champassac	'21			89	8			97
	'55			96	4			100
Attapeu	'21			10	81			99
	'55			30	70			100
Phong Saly	'21	25 <sup>d</sup>	+	4 = 29	50	3	12	94?
	'55							
Sam Neua	'21			75	18	6		99
	'55							

Source: Annuaire Statistique du Laos, I, 39 and Lao Bureau of Statistics.

<sup>a</sup>Includes Tai-Lu also see Note for Table 22.

<sup>b</sup>Included in Luang Prabang figures

<sup>c</sup>Includes some Kha groups

<sup>d</sup>In 1930 it was estimated that 8% of the population was Lao (Table 31)

TABLE 25

POPULATION OF XIENG KHOUANG PROVINCE BY ETHNIC GROUPS  
1953\*

Group	Number	Percent
Meo	37,347	48
Lao	29,566	38
Laotheng (Kha)	8,146	11
Tai Dam	1,565	2
Tai Neua	859	1
Total	77,483	100

\*Sample includes 77,483 in 940 villages, out of a recorded population of 86,728.

Source: Lao Ministry of the Interior.

TABLE 26

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, 1954

<u>Ethnic Group</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Ethnic Group</u>	<u>Number</u>
Khmu	67,844	Kha Hok <sup>c</sup>	427
Lao	49,681	Yao	338
Meo	7,069	Tai Dam <sup>a</sup>	281
Lu <sup>a</sup>	4,453	Yang (Karen)	206
Tai Neua <sup>a</sup>	2,962	Kha Ko (Akha)	180
Phou-Tai <sup>a</sup>	1,426	Vietnamese	154
Phouane <sup>b</sup>	1,041	Lanten	84
Lamet <sup>c</sup>	631	Phou-Xang <sup>c</sup>	23
Houane <sup>a</sup>	588	Cambodian	7
Chinese	468	Indian	3

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Lao	36%	49,681	Total of all groups 137,866
Lao + Tai	41%	59,391	
Khmu	49%	67,844	
Khmu + Kha	50%	68,925	

<sup>a</sup>Tribal Tai groups

<sup>b</sup>Lao speaking group with Vietnamese influences

<sup>c</sup>Kha group

Source: Lao Ministry of the Interior.

TABLE 27

POPULATION OF HOUA-PHAN (SAM NEUA)-1936

<u>Group</u>	<u>Number</u>	
Tai Neua	21,905	} 38,742
Tai Deng	12,996	
Tai Dam	3,001	
Other Tai	840	
Kha	10,234	
Meo	7,438	
Chinese	152	
Vietnamese	455	
Europeans	10	
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,031</b>	

  

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tai	67.9	38,742
Kha	17.9	10,234
Meo	13.0	7,438
Other	1.2	617
	100	57,031

Source: Bulletin des Amis du Laos, Hanoi, 1937.

TABIE 28  
POPULATION OF SARAVANE, 1938

<u>Group</u>	<u>Number</u>
Kha-Souei	10,935
Kha-Ka-Hang	10,533
Kha-Tahoi	7,091
Kha-Alak	6,307
Kha-Nghe	6,041
Kha-Loven	5,904
Kha-Kantou	2,822
Kha-Ine	1,152
Kha-Pakho	904
Kha-Phouak	242
Kha-Chanau	109
Kha-Bang-Kang	80
Kha-Sedang	40
Lao	41,194
Pou T[h]ai	1,567
Vietnamese	206
Cambodians	6
Chinese	57
French	2
	<hr/> 95,199

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Total No.</u>
Kha	<del>55.1</del> 54.8	52,160
Lao	43.3	41,194
Tai	1.6	1,567
Others	<del>0.3</del> 0.3	<del>200</del> 278
	100	95,199

Source: Bulletin des Amis du Laos, Hanoi, 1938.

TABIE 29  
ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF CHAMPASSAC AND SARAVANE in 1952\*

Total Population	305,000
Total Laotheng (Kha)	210,000
Love (Jirru) ("mixed with Lao")	35,000
Alack	23,000
Nhiaenun	18,000
Khasseng	15,000
Khamane	10,000
Tahoi	40,000
Souey	35,000
Sedang, Braos, Souey of Bassac	20-25,000

Note: Table 22 gives 95,218 Kha for the same area and 196,132 Lao-Tai, while by inference this table gives 95,000 Lao-Tai. Attopeu is assumed to be included.

Source: French Government estimates.  
\*The spellings follow the original sources.

TABLE 30

PERCENTAGE ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF  
HONG SA AND PAK LAY DISTRICTS OF SAYABOURY PROVINCE (1950)

Group	Pak Lay Percent	Hong Sa Percent	Population of Hong Sa (1960)	Percent	Total (1960) for the Province	Percent
Lao	40	25	20,599	46	102,551	<del>77</del>
Lu	-	10				
Tai Dam	2	-				
Mhuan (Yuan?) (Fhou Tai)	10	25				
Pai*	18	6	24,182	54	7,139	<del>5</del>
Khmu	20	20			7,908	6
Meo	6	12			10,419	8
Yao	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>			4,436	<del>10</del> 3
Total	100	100	44,781	100	<del>132,552</del> 132,453	<del>100</del> 99

Sources: French government statistics and official Lao government figures as quoted in The Challenge of Laos, August 1960, p. 3.

\*Proto Indochinese group in process of assimilation to Lu or Lao culture.

Note: The total population estimate does not appear to be unduly high but the figures for individual tribal groups are much higher than present Lao government estimates. The 1950 estimates appear to show a greater proportion of tribal peoples than is indicated by the 1960 figures.

TABLE 31

## ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF PHONG SAI, 1930

<u>Group</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
Phu-Noi <sup>a</sup>	3,800	3,600	2,600	10,000
Kha-Khmu	2,000	2,200	1,800	6,000
Kha-Phai <sup>a</sup>	450	550	500	1,500
Kha-Bit	100	110	90	300
Kha-Seng	<u>55</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>200</u>
Total Kha peoples	6,405	6,535	5,060	18,000
Lu	1,000	1,100	900	3,000
Lao	750	900	850	2,500
Tai-Dam )	250	280	270	800
Tai-Kao )				
Tai Neua	60	75	65	200
Yang (Karen)	50	80	70	200
Tho <sup>b</sup>	<u>70</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>70</u>
Total Thai peoples	2,180	2,435	2,155	6,770
Yao	300	300	400	1,000
Meo	<u>130</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>130</u>	<u>400</u>
Meo-Yao Total	430	440	530	1,400
Akha (Kha Ko)	800	1,100	900	2,800
Hô-Allo	700	850	950	2,500
Vietnamese <sup>b</sup>	360	100	40	500
Chinese	25	30	45	100
Europeans	29	1	--	30

## Percentage Distribution

Thai peoples	21
(Lao)	8
Kha groups	56
Meo-Yao	4
Other tribal groups	17
Others	2

Total population 32,100<sup>c</sup>Source: Monographie du V<sup>e</sup> Territoire Militaire, Hanoi, 1930, p. 138.

<sup>a</sup>According to P. B. Lafont, Aperçus sur le Laos, Vientiane (1959: 13) the Kha Phai and Phu-Noi are identical and belong to the Sino-Tibetan linguistic group together with the Akha. The classification here follows the original source and is also based on Embree, Ethnic Groups in Northern Southeast Asia (1950: 104).

<sup>b</sup>The Tho are mainly infantry. The Vietnamese are mainly officials, soldiers, merchants and their families.

<sup>c</sup>According to the source these figures are underestimated, the total population being closer to 40,000 inhabitants with a density of 2.5 per square kilometer. 24

TABLE 32

PARTIAL LIST OF TRIBES IN THE PROVINCE OF HAUT-MEUKONG (NAM THA) IN 1938  
AND PROPORTIONATE COMPOSITION IN TWO PROVINCIAL DISTRICTS IN 1953

	Tribes (by language groups)	# in 1938	Selected Tribes in Nam Tha District		Selected Tribes in Mouai Sai District	
			# in 1953		# in 1953	
FRACO-INDOCHINESE	Lamet	3,806			Lamet	10
	Kham (Phou Theng)	1,778	Phou Theng	4	Phou Theng	14
	Khuen	2,915				
	Con	703				
	Kha Doy	61			Kha Doy	2
	Kha Panna	112	Kha Panna	1		
	Kha Bit	58	Kha Bit	2		
	Kha Sida	31			Kha Ok	3
	Other Kha	3,605	Other Kha	3		
	Total:	13,069	49%	10		29
SINO-TIBETAN	Akha (Kha Ko)	3,423	Kha Kho	5	Kha Kho	3
	Kha Kham (Lahu)	423	Kui	4	Kui	4
	Total:	3,846	14%	9		7
TAI	Mossu	24			Mossu	7
	Mossu Dam	529				
	Mossu Deng	1,120				
	Yang (Karen)					2
	Hio	108	Nhuan	5	Sam Tao Nhuan Ngio	2 6 1.5
	Tai Neua (Phou Tai)	688	Tai Neua	5	Tai Neua	6
	Tai Dam	1,271	Tai Dam	25		
	Yuan	3,003	Khuen	5	Khuen	14
	Niang	122	Lu	4	Lu	10
			Lao	2	Lao	6
	Total:	6,865	26%	46		54.5
NAM-MEO	Meo	271	Meo	3	Meo	6
	Yao	2,129	Yao	12	Yao	4
	Lanten	574	Lanten	12		
	Total:	2,974	11%	27		10

Sources: Lamet Hill Peasants of French Indochina, by K. G. Izikowitz,  
p. 21, and French government statistics.



TABLE 33

NUMBER OF HOUSES, POPULATION AND AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE, COMPARED, IN  
LAO, KHUET AND MEO VILLAGES IN XIANG KHUANG DISTRICT  
1957

Number of Houses	Lao		Khuet		Mao	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1-5	-	-	4	5.3	2	20
6-15	11	17.2	48	64.0	7	70
16-25	10	15.6	20	26.7	1	10
26-50	29	45.3	3	4.0	-	-
51-75	5	7.8	-	-	-	-
76-100	9	14.1	-	-	-	-
	64	100.0	75	100.0	10	100.0
<u>Population of Village</u>						
20 and under	-	-	3	4.0	1	10
21-30	-	-	4	5.3	5	50
31-50	4	6.2	22	29.3	2	20
51-100	10	15.6	37	49.3	2	20
101-200	28	43.7	9	12.0	-	-
201-400	15	23.4	-	-	-	-
401 and over	7	10.9	-	-	-	-
	64	99.8	75	99.9	10	100.0
<u>Average Number of Members in Household</u>						
3.0 and under	-	-	2	2.7	1	10
3.1-3.5	-	-	4	5.3	4	40
3.6-4.0	5	7.8	8	10.7	2	20
4.1-4.5	13	20.3	17	22.7	2	20
4.6-5.0	33	51.6	22	29.3	1	10
5.1-5.5	8	12.5	13	17.3	-	-
5.6-6.0	3	4.7	7	9.3	-	-
6.1-6.5	2	3.1	2	2.7	-	-
	64	100.0	75	100.0	10	100.0

Source: Lao Ministry of the Interior

TABLE 34

SIZE AND POPULATION COMPOSITION OF SELECTED VILLAGES IN NORTHERN  
HUANG PRABANG PROVINCE - 1959\*

Number of Houses	Lao		Mao		Lao Teng (Kha)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1-5	4	2.0	9	9.7	18	3.5
6-15	49	24.3	56	60.2	234	45.4
16-25	66	32.7	20	21.5	159	30.9
26-50	62	30.7	7	7.5	96	18.6
51-75	16	7.9	1	1.1	8	1.6
76-100	3	1.5	-	-	-	-
over 100	2	1.0	-	-	-	-
	202	100.1	93	100.0	515	100.0

## Population of Village

20 or under	1	0.5	5	5.4	20	3.9
21-30	5	2.5	12	12.9	18	3.5
31-50	21	10.4	14	15.1	78	15.1
51-100	62	30.7	38	40.9	222	43.1
101-200	81	40.1	21	22.6	142	27.6
201-400	27	13.4	3	3.2	33	6.4
401 or over	5	2.5	-	-	2	0.4
	202	100.1	93	100.1	515	100.0

## Number of Members in Household

3.0 and under	4	2.0	6	6.5	40	7.8
3.1-3.5	6	3.0	5	5.4	36	7.0
3.6-4.0	21	10.4	10	10.8	54	10.5
4.1-4.5	41	20.3	3	3.2	65	12.6
4.6-5.0	45	22.3	14	15.1	77	15.0
5.1-5.5	40	19.8	8	8.6	71	13.8
5.6-6.0	15	7.4	8	8.6	62	12.0
6.1-6.5	15	7.4	11	11.8	41	8.0
6.6-7.0	6	3.0	13	14.0	35	6.8
7.1-7.5	4	2.0	7	7.5	19	3.7
7.6-8.0	1	0.5	6	6.5	2	0.4
8.0 or over	4	2.0	2	2.2	13	2.5
	202	100.1	93	100.2	515	100.1

Source: Lao Ministry of the Interior

\*Districts of Pak Seng, Pak Ou, Muong Ngoy, Pak Beng

TABLE 35

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF LAO, LAO TENG<sup>a</sup>, MAO<sup>b</sup>, AND OTHER<sup>c</sup> VILLAGES  
IN HUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, BY DISTRICTS - 1957

District (Muong)	Lao		Lao Teng		Mao		Others		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Huang Prabang	64	43	75	50	10	7	-	-	149
Ngoi	72	31	139	60	20	9	-	-	231
Pak Ou	41	30	86	64	7	5	1	1	135
Pak Seng	137	36	242	64	-	-	-	-	379
Houn	22	17	96	74	11	9	-	-	129
Pak Beng	8	9	72	82	8	9	-	-	88
Pak Tha	17	10	128	77	9	5	13	8	167
Xieng Ngeun	73	37	123	63	-	-	-	-	196
Kassy	48	46	57	54	-	-	-	-	105
Hane	32	41	40	51	6	8	-	-	78
Sai	78	40	115	60	-	-	-	-	193
Namo	38	43	51	57	-	-	-	-	89
Total	630	33	1,224	63	71	3	14	.7	1,939

<sup>a</sup>Mainly Khmu<sup>b</sup>Including Yao<sup>c</sup>Tribal Tai groups

TABLE 36

NUMBER OF HOUSES, POPULATION AND AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE  
IN SELECTED LAMET VILLAGES IN LUANG PRABANG AND NAM THA PROVINCES  
1937

Number of Houses	Luang Prabang		Nam Tha	
	No.	%	No.	%
1-5	2	3.4	7	15.9
6-15	36	61.0	22	50.0
16-25	16	27.1	11	25.0
26-50	5	8.5	4	9.1
51-75	-	-	-	-
76-100	-	-	-	-
	59	100.0	44	100.0
Population of Village				
20 and under	3	5.1	5	11.4
21-30	12	20.3	3	6.8
31-50	18	30.5	7	15.9
51-100	23	39.0	23	52.3
101-200	3	5.1	6	13.6
201-400	-	-	-	-
401 and over	-	-	-	-
	59	100.0	44	100.0
Average Number of Members in Household				
3.0 and under	9	15.3	-	-
3.1-3.5	14	23.7	5	11.4
3.6-4.0	12	20.3	13	29.5
4.1-4.5	15	25.4	5	11.4
4.6-5.0	8	13.6	9	20.5
5.1-5.5	-	-	1	2.3
5.6-6.0	-	-	4	9.1
6.1-6.5	1	1.7	3	6.8
6.6-7.0	-	-	4	9.1
Total	59	100.0	44	100.01

Source: Izikowitz: 1951, 39-40.

TABLE 37

SIZE OF PLAIN AND MOUNTAIN VILLAGES, COMPARED,  
PROVINCES OF PHONG SALLY AND NAM THA

Plain and Mountain				Plain				Mountain			
				Av. Size					Av. Size		
Muong	Tas-seng	Vil-lage	Pop.	of Vil-lage	Vil-lage	Pop.	of Vil-lage	Vil-lage	Pop.	of Vil-lage	
Phong Saly Province											
Phong Saly	13	191	26,368	138	58	6,461	111	133	19,907	150	
Ou Neua	6	118	10,292	87	35	4,300	123	83	5,992	72	
Boun Tay	7	49	4,903	100	16	1,681	105	33	3,222	98	
Muong Khoua	8	268	22,390	84	72	9,806	136	196	12,584	64	
Total	34	626	63,953	102	181	22,248 <sup>a</sup>	123	445	41,705 <sup>b</sup>	94	
Nam Tha Province											
Nam Tha	4	75	13,005	173	26	7,779 <sup>c</sup>	299	49	5,226 <sup>d</sup>	107	

Source: FAO reports on Phong Saly and Nam Tha, by B. H. Duclos, 1959.

<sup>a</sup>Includes Lu, Ho, Tai Dam, Tai Neua

<sup>b</sup>Includes Phou Noi, Yao, Meo, Kha Pai, Kha Bit, Kha-Ko, Khmu

<sup>c</sup>Includes Lao, Lu Tai Dam

<sup>d</sup>Includes Lanten, Meo, Kha Ko, Khmu

TABLE 38

AVERAGE VILLAGE SIZE IN NORTHERN LAOS BY SELECTED  
AREAS AND ETHNIC GROUPS

(Xieng Khouang Province, Meo, 1955)

<u>Muong or Kong</u>	<u>Tasseng</u>	<u>No. of Villages</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Average Village Size</u>
Muong Pek	Phou-Khe	18	1,362	75
	Fha Feung	12	1,488	124
	Phou Houat	14	1,172	83
	Pa Kha	21	1,102	52
	Heua Nhouame	32	2,681	83
	Phac Leung	13	851	65
	Khang Heng	24	1,758	73
Muong Cha	Tham Thao	13	1,260	96
	Muong-Pha	18	1,848	102
	Na Vang	31	3,301	106
	Pha Xay	32	1,642	51
	Phou Xek-Ngok	12	892	74
Kong Phou Dou	Phou-Pha	18	1,647	91
	Tha-Chek	14	1,055	75
	Nam-ba	14	1,128	80
	Phou Sanh	14	1,521	108
Kong Nong Het	Phac-Boun	20	1,602	80
	Keng-Khomay	19	1,810	95
	Pha-Vene	31	1,837	59
	Phou-Sabout	10	1,000	100
Kong Muong Moc	Phou-Soung	20	2,600	130
	Nam-Xao	18	1,500	83
	Muong-Ngat	9	950	105
	Tham-Tat	11	1,340	121
	Total	438	37,347	Aver. 85

(Luang Prabang Province, Meo and Yao, 1950)

Muong Sai	Muong Sai	29	557	19
	Muong Nga	4	149	37
	Muong Ia	8	292	36
	Muong Beng	5	304	60
	Muong Nam	16	342	21
	Muong Hai	7	379	—
Total		69	2,023	Aver. 29

(Xieng Khouang Province, Lao, 1955)

Muong Pek	Thay	13	732	56
	Khouang	20	1,128	56
	Ang	9	709	79
	Soui	14	1,384	99
	Xieng Det	6	478	80

TABLE 38

AVERAGE VILLAGE SIZE IN NORTHERN LAOS BY SELECTED  
AREAS AND ETHNIC GROUPS

(Continued)

<u>Muong or Kong</u>	<u>Tasseng</u>	<u>No. of Villages</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Average Village Size</u>
Muong Kham	Muong Kham	14	1,811	129
	Kham Tay	10	712	71
	Huong Neua	13	1,166	90
	Huong Tay	10	1,127	113
	Hat Nam	17	1,812	107
	Hat Bok	21	1,705	81
	The	5	718	144
	Khao	6	497	83
	Chang Ou	9	550	61
	Pheung Xam	16	1,311	82
	Boun Thine	28	1,374	49
	Total	211	17,214	Aver. 82
(Luang Prabang Province, Lao, 1957)				
Muong Luang Prabang	Phakham	8	1,470	184
	Ban Phanom	4	766	192
	Na Luang	4	359	90
	Sangkhalok	11	1,927	175
	Pak Lung	10	1,926	193
	Muong Khay	14	3,512	251
	Xieng Men	14	2,356	168
	Total	65	12,316	Aver. 189
(Muong Sai (1950))				
Muong Sai (1950)	Muong Sai	14	2,837	203
	Muong Nga	4	517	129
	Muong La	6	745	124
	Muong Beng	22	2,305	105
	Muong Namo	6	422	70
	Muong Hin	5	744	149
	Total	57	7,570	Aver. 133
(Xieng Khouang Province, Laoteng, 1955)				
Muong Pek	Thay	3	553	184
	Soui	9	382	42
	Phac Pang Pang	6	237	39
	Na Mouane	3	106	35
	Nam Ko	5	140	28
	Xieng Det	13	691	53
	Kham Neua	4	80	20
	Kham Tay	6	308	51
	Hang Neua	3	189	63
	Hat Nam	7	63	9
	Hat Bok	2	26	13
	Dong Savanh	5	286	57
	Boun Thine	15	907	60
	Pheung Xam	9	518	57
	Bok Nhia	16	851	53
	Lane	13	836	64
	Khang	10	618	62
	Total	129	6,791	53

TABLE 38

AVERAGE VILLAGE SIZE IN NORTHERN LAOS BY SELECTED  
AREAS AND ETHNIC GROUPS

(Continued)

<u>Muong or Kong</u>	<u>Tasseng</u>	<u>No. of Villages</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Average Village Size</u>
(Luang Prabang Province, Laoteng, 1950)				
Muong Sai	Muong Sai	68	4,708	69
	Muong Nga	11	512	47
	Ia	25	1,622	65
	Beng	51	2,964	58
	Namo	11	776	71
	Hai	8	476	60
Total		174	11,058	63.62
<hr/>				
Muong Houn (1958)	Phou Soung	20	1,741	87
	Khoc Ka	11	637	58
Muong Luang Prabang (1957)	Na Luang	15	909	61
	Pak Lung	19	1,104	58
	Muong Khay	29	1,129	59
	Xieng Men	19	1,497	79
	Total	113	7,017	Aver. 63.67
Source: Lao Ministry of the Interior.				

TABLE 39

AGRICULTURAL AND NON-AGRICULTURAL  
HOUSEHOLDS IN NAM THA  
AND MUONG SING TOWNS, NAM THA PROVINCE<sup>a</sup>

	<u>Households</u>	<u>Land Owners</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>% Land Owners</u>
<u>Nam Tha</u>				
Ban Kou	111	70	700	63
Ban Long	123	33	759	27 <sup>b</sup>
Total	234	103	1,459	44
<u>Muong Sing</u>				
(Xieng) Xg. Chay	85	35	502	41 <sup>b</sup>
Xg. Iuh	49	45	257	92
Xg. Yun	37	24	157	65
Xg. Le	31	24	175	77
Total	202	128	1,091	63

Source: Duclos.

<sup>a</sup>The assumption is made that the number of landless farmers is negligible so that the terms agricultural and land-owning households are synonymous.<sup>b</sup>A big factor here is the families of soldiers stationed at the garrisons in these two towns.



TABLE 40

## AGE STRUCTURE OF LAO, KHMU, MEO AND YAO VILLAGES IN LUANG PRABANG DISTRICT, 1957

LAO							: Six Lao Villages : of Vientiane (1959) : District	
Age	M	%	F	%	T	%	Age	%
0-17	2602	44.5	2646	43.2	5248	43.8	0-19	48.8
18-50	2351	40.2	2734	44.6	5085	42.5	20-49	38.0
50 /	892	15.3	751	12.2	1643	13.7	50 /	13.1
Total	5845	100.0	6131	100.0	11,973	100.0		
	% Male	=	48.8					
	% Female	=	51.2					
	Total	=	100.0					

## KHMU

1-17	716	43.1	771	44.6	1487	43.9
18-50	851	51.2	875	50.6	1726	50.9
50 /	94	5.7	82	4.7	176	5.2
Total	1661	100.0	1728	99.9	3389	100.0
	% Male	=	49.0			
	% Female	=	51.0			
	Total	=	100.0			

## MEO AND YAO

1-17	74	43.0	69	38.3	143	40.6
19-50	91	52.9	103	57.2	194	55.1
50 /	7	4.1	8	4.4	15	4.3
Total	172	100.0	180	99.9	352	100.0
	% Male	=	48.9			
	% Female	=	51.1			
	Total	=	100.0			

Note: Khmu, Meo and Yao statistics tend to be less accurate than those for the Lao.

Source: Lao government statistics.

TABLE 41

## AGE DISTRIBUTION OF SELECTED PEOPLES IN LAOS

Age Group	All of Laos 1943	LAO (Luang Prabang District) 1957	KHMU (Luang Prabang District) 1957	MEO-YAO (Luang Prabang District) 1957	PHOU <sup>a</sup> TAI Savannakhet 1937	KHA <sup>b</sup> Savan- nakhet 1938	Age
1-17	45.1	43.8	43.9	40.6	50.3	42.5	0-15
18-50	41.1	42.5	50.9	55.1	40.5	49.3	16-50
50 /	13.8	13.7	5.2	4.3	9.2	8.2	50 /
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Source: Pietrantoni: 1943, p. 30 and Lao government statistics.

<sup>a</sup>24 villages of 8,896 individuals south of Savannakhet town.

<sup>b</sup>7 Kha Tassangs in Tchepone District; 5,084 individuals.

TABLE 42

AGE GROUPS, BY VILLAGES, MUONG VIENTIANE - 1959  
(Lao)

AGE GROUP	BAN NAKAE	%	BAN NONG PYA	%	BAN DON MAKKAI	%	BAN DON NOON	%	BAN XIENDA	%	BAN XOKI YAI	%	TOTAL	%
0-1	0		7		8		36		14		19		84	
2	1		2		10		15		11		10		49	
3	9		2		10		31		7		11		70	
4	3		5		4		20		8		4		44	
Sub-total (0-4)	13	6.2	16	8.2	32	18.6	102	16.4	40	16.6	44	14.1	247	14.1
5	5		6		4		11		7		12		45	
6	5		3		7		14		6		8		43	
7	6		8		0		15		6		6		41	
8	5		4		9		10		6		10		44	
9	6		3		2		10		7		7		35	
Sub-total (5-9)	27	12.9	24	12.4	22	12.8	60	9.7	32	13.3	43	13.8	208	11.9
10-14	23	11.0	28	14.4	19	11.0	71	11.4	32	13.3	39	12.5	212	12.1
Sub-total (0-14)	63	30.1	68	35.0	73	42.4	233	37.5	104	43.2	126	40.4	667	38.1
15-19	23	11.0	23	11.6	18	10.4	54	8.7	24	10.0	46	14.7	188	10.7
20-24	19	9.0	15	7.7	17	9.9	53	8.5	22	9.1	14	4.5	140	8.0
25-29	28	13.4	18	9.3	10	5.8	52	8.4	15	6.2	23	7.4	146	8.3
30-34	18	8.6	14	7.2	16	9.3	35	5.6	14	5.8	13	4.2	110	6.3
35-39	10	4.8	11	5.7	9	5.2	53	8.5	18	7.5	14	4.5	115	6.6
40-44	6	2.9	7	3.6	8	4.7	23	3.7	5	2.1	13	4.2	62	3.5
45-49	10	4.8	9	4.6	7	4.1	32	5.2	14	5.8	20	6.4	92	5.3
50-54	7	3.3	5	2.6	2	1.2	21	3.4	10	4.2	18	5.8	63	3.6
Sub-total (15-54)	121	57.8	107	52.6	87	50.6	323	52.0	122	50.6	161	51.6	916	52.3
55-59	8	3.8	6	3.1	8	4.7	22	3.5	3	1.2	18	5.8	65	3.7
60-64	6	2.9	11	5.7	2	1.2	22	3.5	6	2.4	5	1.6	52	3.0
65-69	7	3.3	2	1.0	2	1.2	14	2.3	5	2.1	1	.3	31	1.8
70-74	2	1.0	4	2.1	0	-	5	.8	1	.5	1	.3	13	.7
75 & over	2	1.0	1	.5	0	-	2	.3	0	-	0	-	5	.3
Sub-total (55+)	25	12.0	24	12.4	12	7.0	65	10.5	15	6.2	25	8.0	166	9.5
TOTAL	209	99.9	194	100.0	172	100.0	621	99.9	241	100.0	312	100.1	1749	99.9

Source: Bureau Muong, Vientiane.

Note: These villages are located outside the immediate area of Vientiane town. They are southwest of Vang Vieng between the Luang Prabang road and the Mekong River.

TABLE 43

AGE DISTRIBUTION, SELECTED LAO AND THAI VILLAGES COMPARED:  
BANG CHAN AND KU DAENG, THAILAND; BAN PHA KHAO AND SIX OTHER  
LAO VILLAGES IN THE DISTRICT OF VIENTIANE, LAOS

Age Group In Years	Ku Daeng		Bang Chan		Ban Pha Khao		Villages in Muong Vientiane	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
0 - 4	123	14.6	163	10	76	19	247	14.1
5 - 9	60	7.1	209	13	51	12.7	208	11.9
10 - 14	78	9.3	207	13	38	9.5	212	12.1
sub-total	261	31.0	579	33	165	40.7	667	38.1
15 - 19	91	10.8	193	12	35	8.7	188	10.7
20 - 24	111	13.2	170	11	34	8.5	140	8.0
25 - 29	73	8.7	115	7	44	11.0	146	8.3
30 - 34	57	6.8	96	6	21	5.0	110	6.3
35 - 39	31	3.7	95	6	17	4.0	115	6.6
40 - 44	39	4.6	82	5	18	4.5	62	3.5
45 - 49	60	7.1	78	5	19	4.5	92	5.3
50 - 54	41	4.9	59	4	17	4.0	63	3.6
sub-total	503	59.8	888	55	205	50.0	916	52.3
55 - 59	28	3.3	50	3	20	5	65	3.7
60 - 64	27	3.2	37	2	10	2.5	52	3.0
65 - 69	14	1.7	22	1	1	.3	31	1.8
70 - 74	6	0.9	16	1	0	0	13	.7
75 - 79 /	3	0.4	16	2	1	.3	5	.3
sub-total	78	9.3	141	9	32	9.1	166	9.5
total	842	100.1	1608	100	402	100.3	1,749	99.9

Sources: Kingshill: 431, Sharp: 27, Ayabe: 90, and the Lao government.

Note: Bang Chan is located near Bangkok, Ku Daeng in the vicinity of Chiang Mai and Ban Pha Khao is near Vientiane. The six Lao villages from the District of Vientiane are located north of Vientiane town between the Luang Prabang Road and the Mekong River.

TABLE 43A

CHINESE POPULATION OF XIENG KHOUANG PROVINCE  
BY AGE AND SEX  
1959

	Xieng Khouang			Phong Savanh			Lac Hong			Lac Bouat			Muong Kam		
<u>Age Group</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
over 60 yrs	13	15	28	1	3	4	5	9	14	--	1	1	8	1	9
20-60 yrs	198	160	358	57	57	114	68	73	141	31	16	47	48	36	84
under 20	195	168	363	63	36	99	70	56	126	35	23	58	46	35	81
Totals	406	343		121	96		143	138		66	40		102	72	
			749			217			281			106			174
Grand Total	<u>No.</u>		<u>%</u>							<u>No.</u>		<u>%</u>			
over 60	56		3.7					Grand Total,		838		54.9			
20-60	744		48.7					Male							
under 20	727		47.6					Grand Total,		689		45.1			
								Female							
	1527		100.0					Total		1527		100.0			

Source: Chinese community records.

TABLE 44

DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX  
BAN PHA KHAO, VIETNAME

Age Groups	Males	Females	Total	% of Total Population
0-4	36	40	76	19
5-9	26	25	51	12.7
10-14	22	16	38	9.5
15-19	15	20	35	8.7
20-24	8	26	34	8.5
25-29	24	20	44	10.9
30-34	12	9	21	5.2
35-39	11	6	17	4.2
40-44	6	12	18	4.5
45-49	6	13	19	4.7
50-54	13	4	17	4.2
55-59	14	6	20	5.0
60-64	7	3	10	2.5
65-69	1	0	1	.3
70-74	0	0	0	--
75 and over	1	0	1	.3
Totals	202	200	402	100.0

Source: Ayabe, p. 90.

TABLE 45

AGE STRUCTURE OF THE POPULATION OF LAOS AND OTHER NATIONS,  
BY PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTIONS, COMPARED

Country	Year	All Ages	Under 15	15-59	60 and over
Burma	1951	100	37.4	57.5	5.1
Mainland China	1953	100	35.9	59.7	4.4
India	1951	100	37.4	56.9	5.7
Japan	1956	100	32.8	59.0	8.2
Laos <sup>a</sup>	1943	100	38.8	54.3	6.9
10 Lao Villages <sup>b</sup>	1959	100	38.1	56.0	5.9
Ban Pha Khao <sup>c</sup>	1957	100	40.7	55.2	4.1
Philippines	1956	100	44.1	51.3	4.6
Thailand	1947	100	42.3	53.5	4.2
Mexico	1950	100	41.7	52.7	5.6
France	1956	100	24.4	58.7	16.9
United States	1957	100	30.4	56.9	12.7

Source: Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East, Vol. X, No. 1, p. 12.<sup>a</sup>Pietrantonio: 1953, 37.<sup>b</sup>Vientiane District Office (Bureau Muong).<sup>c</sup>Ayabe: 1958, 90.

TABLE 46

## CRUDE BIRTH RATES, IAOS AND OTHER WORLD AREAS, COMPARED, 1954-56

Country	Estimated or Reasonably Accurate Registered Rates
ECAFE region	
Burma	44
Cambodia	47
China: Mainland	37
Taiwan	45
India	40 - 43
Indonesia	43
Japan	19.2
Laos	46
Philippines	49
Thailand	47
Viet-Nam	43
Latin America	
Mexico	46.5
Economically developed countries	
France	18.6
United States	24.8

Source: Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East, Vol. X, No. 1, p. 6.

Note: Sources of data in Tables 46-48 unknown, probably based on estimates.

TABLE 47

## CRUDE DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES, IAOS &amp; OTHER WORLD AREAS, COMPARED, 1954-56

Country	Estimated or Reasonably Accurate Registered Rates	
	Crude Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
ECAFE region		
Burma	29	221
Cambodia	23	179
China: Mainland	17	---
Taiwan	10	78
India	27-31	200
Indonesia	24	192
Japan	8.0	41.7
Laos	28	221
Philippines	21	166
Thailand	23	179
Viet-Nam	22	---
Latin America		
Mexico	13.0	125
Economically developed countries		
France	12.2	38.5
United States	9.3	26.3

Source: Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East, Vol. X, No. 1, p. 6. 36

TABLE 48

EXPECTANCY OF LIFE AT BIRTH FOR BOTH SEXES,  
LAOS AND OTHER WORLD AREAS, COMPARED, 1955

Country	Life Expectancy in Years	
ECAFE region		
Burma	around	34
Cambodia	around	40
China: Taiwan	around	55
India	around	35
Indonesia	around	39
Japan	around	66
Laos	around	34
Philippines	around	44
Thailand	around	40
Economically developed countries		
France	around	68
United States	around	71

Source: Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East, Vol. X, No. 1, p. 6.



TABLE 49

## POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR DISTRICT CENTERS, 1958

Province	District Center	Population Estimate in .000	
		Minimum	Maximum
LUANG PRABANG		210	280
	Luang Prabang*	7	15 <sup>a</sup>
	Muong Ngol	1	2.5
	Muong Sai	1	3
	Pak Tha	1.5	2.5
	Muong Houn	1.5	2.5
	Nam Bac	1	1.5
	Muong Kassy	1	1.5
Total		14,000	28,500
% of Population in District Centers		6.7	10.2
VIENTIANE		180	250
	Vientiane*	45	80 <sup>b</sup>
	Paksane	2	3
	Phone Hang	1.5	2.5
	Sanakham	1.5	2.5
	Ban Keun	1.5	2.5
	Vang Vieng	1	1.5
Total		52,500	90,500
%		29.2	36.2
SAVANNAKHET		270	350
	Savannakhet*	7	10
	Keng Kok	1.5	2.5
	Dong Hen	1.5	2
	Song Khone	1.5	2.5
	Lahanam	2	3
	Tchépone	1	1.5
Total		14,500	21,500
%		5.4	6.1
KHAMMOUANE		120	160
	Thakhek*	4	7
	Hinboun	1.5	2
	Mahaxay	1.5	2.5
	Nhommarath	1	1.5
Total		8,000	13,000
%		6.7	8.1
CHAMPASSAC		170	220
	Pakse*	6	10
	Champassac	3	4
	Saphay	2.5	3.5
	Muong Khong	1.5	2
	Paksong	1	1.5
Total		14,000	21,000
%		8.2	9.5
ATTOPEU		60	90
	Attopeu*	2.5	3
%		4.2	3.3

TABLE 49

POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR DISTRICT CENTERS, 1958  
(Continued)

Province	District Center	Population Estimate in .000	
		Minimum	Maximum
SARAVANE		160	200
	Saravane*	2	2.5
	Thateng	1	1.5
	Khongsedone	1.5	2.5
	Total %	4,500 2.8	6,500 3.3
SAYABOURY		140	180
	Sayaboury*	2	3
	Paklay	1.5	2.5
	Total %	3,500 2.5	5,500 3.1
NAM THA		65	100
	Nam Tha*	1.5	3
	Houei Sai	1	2
	Muong Sing	1	2
	Total %	3,500 5.4	7,000 7
XIENG KHOUANG		130	170
	Xieng Khouang*	3	4
	Ban Bane	1.5	2
	Total %	4,500 3.5	6,000 3.5
PHONG SALY		70	100
	Phong Saly*	2	3
	Boun Neua	2	3
	Outay	1.5	2
	Total %	5,500 7.9	8,000 8
SAM NEUA		80	110
	Sam Neua*	2.5	3.5
	Muong Peune	1.5	2.0
	Total %	4,000 5	5,500 5
Total for all of Laos in 000		1,655	2,210

	Low	High
Total Population in District Centers	128,500	213,000
%	7.8	9.6

<sup>a</sup>A 1958 census placed the population of Luang Prabang town at 7,596.

<sup>b</sup>A 1959 census of Vientiane town lists 68,206.

Note: The only district centers which can be considered urban are those which are provincial capitals (\*). The population of all the others is largely agricultural. 39

TABLE 50

POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR SELECTED TOWNS, COMPARED  
(1901 - 1958)

<u>Town</u>	<u>1901<sup>a</sup></u>	<u>1930<sup>b</sup></u>	<u>1943<sup>b</sup></u>	<u>1958<sup>c</sup></u>
Luang Prabang	5,900	5,400	4,950	11,000
Xieng Khouang	150	1,400	2,100	3,500
Vientiane	2,700	15,800	23,200	68,000
Savannakhet	300	4,500	5,500	8,500
Saravane	650	-	-	2,350
Attapeu	900	-	-	2,750
Pakse	-	3,400	7,300	8,000
Thakhek	-	3,400	8,100	5,500

<sup>a</sup>Reinach: 1901, pp. 200-217.<sup>b</sup>Pietrantonio: 1957, p. 230.<sup>c</sup>Lao government statistics.

TABLE 51

## GROWTH OF THE POPULATION OF SELECTED TOWNS AND PROVINCES, COMPARED, 1943 - 1959

	<u>Town</u>	<u>Province</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Province</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Province</u>
		<u>1943</u>	<u>Estimated</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Xieng Khouang	2,100	85,000	3,500	150,000	66.7	76.5
Vientiane	23,200	126,000	68,000	215,000	193.1	70.6
Savannakhet	5,500	186,000	8,500	310,000	54.5	66.7

Source: Pietrantonio, 1957, and Lao government statistics.

TABLE 52

ESTIMATED POPULATION IN URBAN AREAS, AROUND 1950, LAOS AND OTHER  
WORLD AREAS, COMPARED  
(LOCALITIES OF 20,000 OR MORE INHABITANTS)

<u>Country</u>	<u>Percentage of Population in Urban Areas</u>
Asia (ECAFE region)	13
World Total	21
Africa	9
North America	42
Europe	35
Burma	10
Laos (1959)*	4
Vietnam	8
Philippines	13
India	12
Thailand	8
Nepal	4

Source: ECAFE Bulletin, p. 18.

\*Based on maximum estimate for city of Vientiane, the only "urban" area in Laos. In reality Laos is the least urban country in all of Asia since Nepal has 10 cities of over 5,000 population and Laos only 5 according to maximum population estimates. If minimum estimates are taken Laos can be considered 3% urban.

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TABLE 53

FAMILY SIZE AND THE NUMBER OF GENERATIONS IN THREE LAO VILLAGES  
(VANG VIERG DISTRICT)

Generations	No. of Family Members								Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<u>Ban Kho</u>									
I	2								2
II		1	5	2	1	7	5	1	22
III							1		1
									<u>25</u>
<u>Ban Na Tane</u>									
I									
II			2	3		1	1		7
III						1	1	1	3
									<u>10</u>
<u>Ban Soum Thai</u>									
I	4								4
II			7	1	1				9
III					1	2			3
									<u>16</u>

Source: K. Iwata, "Ethnic Groups in the Valley of the Nam Song and Nam Lik."

TABLE 54

HOUSEHOLD SIZE OF BLACK TAI VILLAGES,  
NAM THA DISTRICT AND PROVINCE, 1958

	Village	Household	Inhabitants	Average Household Size
Tasseng Tong Om	Tong Om	47	307	6.5
	Ban Phae	24	167	7.0
	Pa Hong	26	201	7.7
	Tong Di	41	295	7.2
	Pa Pouak	30	165	5.5
	Ban Palane	17	163	9.6
	Tong Chay Tay	20	138	<del>6.9</del> 6.6
	Tong Chay Nena	62	438	7.1
	Nam Chang	30	215	7.2
	Nam Ngem	90	596	6.2
	Tong Kang*	31	101	3.3
	Houa Koua	29	156	5.4
	Total	447	2,942	6.6
Tasseng Ban Pong	Ban Passak	34	238	7
	Ban Pong	99	617	6.2
	Ban Na Hoy	12	71	5.9
	Ban Na Leu	13	83	6.4
	Total	158	1,009	6.4

\*Village destroyed by fire in 1958.

Source: Duclos

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TABLE 55

## HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN THE LAO VILLAGE OF BAN PHA KHAO, VIENTIANE PROVINCE

	Number of Members in Household									Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Number of cases	1	10	13	21	17	18	6	1	1	88
Percent	1.1	11.4	14.8	23.9	19.3	20.5	6.8	1.1	1.1	100.0

Source: Ayabe (1959: Table 4).

TABLE 55A

HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN THE YAO VILLAGE OF  
KAYSOU NEAR VANG VIENG, VIENTIANE PROVINCE

	Number of Members in Household																		Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
No. of cases	0	0	2	2	4	5	3	2	1	3	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	27
Percent	0	0	7.4	7.4	14.8	18.5	11.1	7.4	3.7	11.1	3.7	0	7.4	3.7	0	0	0	3.7	99.0

Source: Iwata, 1959.

TABLE 56

## HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN VIENTIANE TOWN

Number of Persons Per Household	Number of Cases	Total Number of Persons in Each Category
16	1	16
12	1	12
11	3	33
10	2	20
9	5	45
8	22	176
7	24	168
6	27	162
5	15	75
TOTAL	100	707

Average Household Size - 7.07

Source: Lao Statistical Bureau Cost of Living Survey Sample.

TABLE 57

## HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN VIENTIANE TOWN AND VIENTIANE PROVINCE, COMPARED

( 1959 )

<u>Sections of Vientiane Town</u>	<u># of Houses</u>	<u># of Households</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Average House- hold Size</u>
Sikhay	832	976	4,863	5.7
Sithan - Neua	1,642	2,045	10,812	5.3
Vat Chanh	3,462	5,549	29,687	5.4
That Khao	1,777	2,258	11,636	5.2
Nong Bone	1,315	1,622	7,924	4.9
That Luang	641	647	3,284	5.1
Total	9,669	13,097	68,206	5.2
<u>Sample Villages in Vientiane District</u>				
Ban Nakae	-- <sup>a</sup>	43	209	4.9
Nong Pya	--	44	194	4.4
Don Makkaï	--	27	172	6.4
Don Noon	--	128	621	4.9
Xienda	--	42	241	5.7
Xoke Yai	--	61	312	5.1
Total	--	345	1,749	5.1
Ban Pha Khao <sup>b</sup>	--	88	402	4.6

Source: Lao Bureau of Statistics.

Note: There were 118,778 in Vientiane and its surrounding area

<sup>c</sup> In rural areas number of houses and number of households are virtually synonymous.<sup>b</sup> Ban Pha Khao data from Ayabe, 1959.



TABLE 58

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF SELECTED PROVINCIAL CAPITALS IN LAOS  
1943 AND 1959 COMPARED

Town	1943								1959				
	Lao	% Lao	Viet- namese	% Viet- namese	Chinese	% Chinese	Others <sup>a</sup>	% Others	Estimated Total Pop.	Estimated Total Pop.	Foreign Asians in Prov. <sup>b</sup>	Estimated Urban Chinese Pop. <sup>c</sup>	% Chinese
Vientiane	9,570	41.5	12,400	53	900	4	330	1.5	23,200	68,000	23,200	15,000	22.1
Luang Prabang	3,000	61	1,400	28	480	10	70	1	4,950	11,000	2,683	1,800 <sup>d</sup>	16.4
Thakhek (Khammouane)	800	10	6,900	85	300	4	100	1	8,100	5,500	625	1,500	27.2
Savannakhet	850	16	4,000	72	450	8.2	200	3.6	5,500	8,500	5,011	3,500	41.1
Paksé (Champassac)	1,000	15.5	4,500	62	1,700	23	100	1	7,300	8,000	13,135	7,500	93.7
Xieng Khouang	240	11	1,500	72	300	15	60	3	2,100	3,500	1,521	1,300	37.1
TOTAL	15,460	30	30,700	60	4,130	8	860	2	51,150	104,500	46,175 <sup>e</sup>	30,600 <sup>e</sup>	29.3

Source: Pietrantonio: 1957, 230, and the Lao Ministry of the Interior.

<sup>a</sup>Europeans, Indians, etc.

<sup>b</sup>Includes rural and urban Vientianese and Chinese and Indians who are not Lao citizens. A number of those who form part of the first two ethnic groups were born in Laos and so do not figure in this total.

<sup>c</sup>The figure for the Chinese probably includes some who work as gardeners in surrounding rural areas.

<sup>d</sup>In 1954 another source gives 468 as the number of Chinese in Luang Prabang Province (Table 26).

<sup>e</sup>Official figures on the Chinese for 1953 (10,794) are given in Table 59. Despite the recent growth and possible underestimates in official statistics it appears possible that the 1959 figures may be too high, since in 1953 there were 26,721 "foreigners" in Laos (Table 60). The number of native born Chinese is not known, but if the 19,454 increase of foreigners from 1953 to 1959 were almost all Chinese the 1959 Chinese population appears possible.